

Reflection on the Tides

A writing on Climate Change and Oceans

As we look at the world around us, we see aspects of our environment that may never be seen again. Cities continue to be forever changed by the impacts of climate change. Water levels threaten to swallow cities and destroy whole coastal regions. The world around us is under attack every day, yet too often as a society we fail to recognize the irreversible damage that we place on our planet. While there is a great variety of degradation that we cause, it often appears that looking at the water in our midst can be the best indicator of the ways in which we destroy our planet. Examining historical data in terms of metrics such as glacial melt, carbon dioxide emissions, and water levels indicates that there ought to be a gradual ebb and flow in these measurements throughout history. Yet there is insurmountable evidence that we have generated tremendous amounts of damage to the environment which cannot be attributed to such ebbs and flows.

Glacial melt continues at a rate never seen before and puts many different communities and cities at risk in the near future. Rising water temperatures and water levels are at the forefront of marine biologists and city planners minds as we enter into a world riddled with unforeseen consequences due to climate change. In this chaotic and cruel world which disproportionately affects those already disadvantaged, we have to look at the root causes along with what we can possibly do to achieve a habitable environment for the plants and animals around us. As we all know, this is a complex and multifaceted problem with no clear answer. Yet it is clear from the world around us that we need change to prevent the climate effects which endangers life as we know it.